

OCT. 15. 2004 . 9:49AM

513 241 6234

RECEIVED NO. 9780 P. 1
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 15 2004

BRUCE TITTEL
DONALD F. FREI
DAVID J. JOSEPHIC
DAVID S. STALLARD
J. ROBERT CHAMBERS
GREGORY J. LUNN
KURT L. GROSSMAN
CLEMENT H. LUKEN, JR.
THOMAS J. BURGER
GREGORY F. AHRENS
WAYNE L. JACOBS
KURT A. SUMME
KEVIN G. ROONEY
KEITH R. HAUPT
THEODORE R. REMAKLUS
THOMAS W. HUMPHREY
SCOTT A. STINEBRUNER
DAVID H. BRINKMAN
BEVERLY A. LYMAN, Ph.D.

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

2700 Carew Tower
441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2917
Telephone: 513-241-2324
Facsimile: 513-241-6234
EMAIL: info@whepatent.com

**PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT
AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW
AND RELATED LITIGATION**

EDMUND P. WOOD 1923-1968
TRUMAN A. HERRON 1935-1976
EDWARD B. EVANS 1936-1971

JOSEPH R. JORDAN
C. RICHARD EBY
DAVID E. PRITCHARD

J. DWIGHT POFFENBERGER, JR.
KATHRYN E. SMITH
KRISTI L. DAVIDSON
P. ANDREW BLATT, Ph.D.
DAVID E. JEFFERIES
WILLIAM R. ALLEN, Ph.D.
JOHN PAUL DAVIS
DOUGLAS A. SCHOLER
BRETT A. SCHATZ
DAVID W. DORTON
SARAH OTTE GRABER
WESLEY L. STRICKLAND*
STEVEN W. BENINTENDI, Ph.D.
RANDALL S. JACKSON, JR.

OF COUNSEL
JOHN D. POFFENBERGER
THOMAS W. FLYNN

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

*ADMITTED ONLY IN D.C. AND VA

If transmission is interrupted or of poor
quality, please notify us immediately by
calling 513 \ 241-2324.
Ask for sender's secretary.

TO: The Honorable Commissioner
Attention: Bradley T. King
Art Unit 3683

FROM: David H. Brinkman

Fax No.: (703) 872-9306

Phone: (513) 241-2324

Date: October 15, 2004

Fax: (513) 241-6234

Pages (including cover page): 4

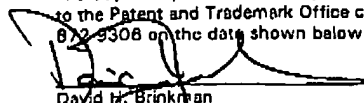
Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/620,177 STAB JOINT COUPLING
Attorney Docket No. CTH-108

ATTACHMENTS/COMMENTS: OFFICIAL

Please deliver to Bradley T. King
Request for Continued Examination (1 page) (in duplicate)
Petition For One (1) Month Extension of Time (1 page)

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted
to the Patent and Trademark Office centralized facsimile number (703)
872-9308 on the date shown below.


David H. Brinkman

October 15, 2004

Date

PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/620,177
Filing Date	July 20, 2000
First Named Inventor	James W. Shade
Art Unit	3683
Examiner Name	Bradley T. King
Attorney Docket Number	CTH-108

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
OCT 15 2004**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
ii. ☐ Other _____

- b. ☐ Enclosed

- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

- a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 23-3000 I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

- iii. ☐ Other _____

- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED	
Signature	Date <u>10/15/04</u>
Name (Print/Type) <u>David H. Brinkman</u>	Registration No. <u>40,532</u>

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Signature	Date <u>10/15/04</u>
Name (Print/Type) <u>David H. Brinkman</u>	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2

PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/820,177	RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER OCT 15 2004
Filing Date	July 20, 2000	
First Named Inventor	James W. Shade	
Art Unit	3683	
Examiner Name	Bradley T. King	
Attorney Docket Number	CTH-108	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____

- b. ☐ Enclosed

- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

- a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 23-3000. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

- iii. ☐ Other _____

- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature		Date	10/15/04
Name (Print/Type)	David H. Brinkman	Registration No.	40,532

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Signature		Date	10/15/04
Name (Print/Type)	David H. Brinkman		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.